

Please amend the following claim 14.

Sub C1
14. (Amended) A method for identifying compounds with memory restoring activity, comprising:

(a) administering a test compound to an animal comprising at least one non-functional allele of the p53 gene, wherein the animal has a diminished capacity to recall, and

(b) determining whether said test compound restores memory in said animal, wherein test compounds that improve the diminished capacity to recall are identified as compounds with memory restoring activity.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 11-16 are now pending in this application. Claim 14 has been amended to clarify the invention. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph

In the Office Action dated July 16, 2002, the Examiner stated:

Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims of the above invention are drawn to methods of screening for compounds with "memory restoring activity". The language comprising "memory restoring" is vague and indefinite. One could not know whether the method seeks compounds that restore specific memories that were once held but were then lost over time, or if such compounds would restore one's capacity to formulate new memories, or further if said compounds would enhance the overall number or quality of memories that a person holds on to over time.